

of countless individuals through their unwavering commitment to those in need. The ministry is both a beacon of hope and a network of support for so many and serves as an inspiration to us all.

**HONORING THE FORT WORTH ASSOCIATION OF FEDERATED WOMEN'S CLUBS 100 YEARS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**HON. MARC A. VEASEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 5, 2017*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fort Worth Association of Federated Women's Clubs (FWAFWC) for its 100 years of service to Fort Worth and the greater Tarrant County community.

The FWAFWC was founded in 1917 with Mrs. Fannie Mae Connally-Winn serving as the first president of the organization. Mrs. Winn created the organization because she wanted the "colored" women of Fort Worth to have the opportunity to be known for their service throughout the community. The organization has lived up to its founding mission and grown substantially over the decades.

The FWAFWC continues its commitment to ensuring that African-American women are aware of their civic duties, social issues in the community, family health matters, and the importance of educating youth for a better future. As part of their mission, FWAFWC members volunteer for the Annual Prom Dress Give Away each year and collect hundreds of donated items for local high school girls.

Additionally, FWAFWC has sponsored an annual cotillion for over 10 years, which provides young ladies with the skills to be successful later in life. The Cotillion also serves as a scholarship fundraiser event aimed at empowering young women to pursue their higher education aspirations. Along with volunteering throughout the community, the group makes monetary donations to numerous local charities and community service organizations throughout the year, including a \$500 college scholarship to graduating African American high school seniors.

I honor the Fort Worth Association of Federated Women's Clubs and its century of service to the Fort Worth and Tarrant County community.

**RECOGNIZING BRUNO VIDAL**

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 5, 2017*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Detective Bruno Vidal, as he retires after 25 years of law enforcement service.

Det. Vidal began his law enforcement career in 1992 as a Police Officer with New York City's Finest, the NYPD. In 1993 he was assigned to the 90th Precinct in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. In 1995, he joined the Community Patrol Officer Program (CPOP). A program designed to promote collaborative problem solving efforts between the community and police

department. This program enabled Det. Vidal to patrol a dedicated geographic location within the community where he successfully worked with residents in identifying areas with serious quality of life conditions. As the CPOP Officer, his approach, mannerism and ability to communicate with the public, young and older, was instrumental in fortifying the trust between the 90th Precinct and the greater community.

This achievement led to his appointment as the precinct's Community Affairs Officer. In this capacity, he worked extensively within Williamsburg community. Det. Vidal established strong relationships with schools, faith-based and local organizations, small businesses, housing leaders and elected officials. He has earned numerous awards and the respect of the community and members of the service. In 2007 he was promoted to the well-deserved rank of Detective. And in 2015, he earned the new rank of Detective Specialist 2nd grade.

For twenty-five years, Det. Bruno Vidal has been an exemplary role model and dedicated public servant who served with pride and honor. I am proud to know and have worked with him on local issues. He is a loyal representative of New York's Finest. I also want to thank his family, Mrs. Arisleida Vidal-Abreu and their three children Matthew, Carolyn and Adam for supporting his career. Please join me in saluting Detective Bruno Vidal from the 90th Precinct in New York City.

**RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST INDIANA'S NEW CITIZENS**

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 5, 2017*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who took their oaths of citizenship on Friday, August 11, 2017. This memorable occasion, presided over by Magistrate Judge John E. Martin, was held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On August 11, 2017, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, took their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Feda Izzedin Aljobeh, Mahmoud Ibrahim Almakharza, Mosa Maher Awad, Roberto Barraza, Manuel de Jesus Castaneda, Maria Arminde de Leon, Jose Jorge Garcia, Lucio Chan Gudmalin, Wendy Lane Harris, Nora Ibrahim, Delia Ruiz, Ma Olivia Avila de Torres, Eduardo Torres, Victor Hugo Vargas Sanchez, Jose Jesus Vargas, Cayetano Ontiveros Rodriguez, Silvia Andrea Alvarez, Guijuan Niu, Shanqin Chen, Hamida Brkovic, Eric Kwadwo Ofori, Ling Zhou, Jose Luis Castro Vazquez, Julio Alvarez Gonzalez,

Hong Tuyet Thi Nguyen, Juana Irma Diez de Sollano Garcia, Ruth Mwhaki Chege, Jose Martin Hernandez, Hannah Rose Babbini, and Prabhakar Himatram Jani.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country "... of the people, by the people, and for the people." They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who became citizens of the United States of America on August 11, 2017. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

**DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INCORPORATED**

**HON. MARK POCAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 5, 2017*

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation.

Whereas on January 13, 2013, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, a non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide assistance and support through established programs in local communities throughout the world; and

Whereas the Sorority was founded in 1913 by 22 students at Howard University and these young women wanted to use their collective strength to promote and provide academic excellence; scholarships; support to the underserved; education and participation in the establishment of positive public policy; and to highlight issues and provide solutions for problems in their communities; and

Whereas Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated is a sisterhood of more than 200,000 predominately Black college-educated women and the Sorority currently has over 1,000 chapters located in the United States, England, Japan, Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, the Republic of Korea, and here in Dane County, Wisconsin; and

Whereas the Madison Alumnae Chapter was chartered on August 27, 1977 by twenty-two bold and visionary women who saw the urgent need for a chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated in Madison, Wisconsin to create a collective shift in thinking for African American residents; to cultivate and educate the minority community in political, educational, cultural, economic and social spheres; and has continued to thrive, empower, and lead for forty years using sisterhood, scholarship and service as the guide; and

Whereas the Madison Alumnae Chapter has participated in Delta Days in the nation's capital to meet with me and my staff to discuss